



All Things Pawsible

WINTER
2026



In the last year, you helped us find new homes and loving families for **5,200 animals!**

Saving Lives

A Second Chance at Home for Willie and Cody

When Willie and Cody first came to Humane Society Silicon Valley, they were tiny, sick kittens who needed the specialized care of our foster program. Willie, a sleek black kitten who had both eyes removed, and his orange-and-white buddy, Cody, recovered slowly under the devoted care of longtime foster Diane. Once healthy, they were adopted together — and for several years, they brought boundless joy and comfort to their first adopter.

But last spring, everything changed. Facing a sudden housing crisis, their adopter knew he couldn't keep them safe. Remembering a promise Diane had made years earlier, he reached out. Within hours, HSSV staff and volunteers were coordinating a plan to bring the boys back into our care. Diane drove to meet him, helped complete the surrender paperwork, and brought Willie and Cody home with her — determined to help them find another home filled with love.

(continued on next page)

During their intake exams, our medical team discovered that both cats had dental disease, and Cody's case was especially severe. He underwent two major dental surgeries, with Diane overseeing his recovery and working closely with Dr. Tao to manage his comfort. It was a slow, careful process — but essential to giving him a life free from pain.

In 2025, we scaled up our foster network by **20%** and cut the length of stay in half on average, from **11 days to 5.5!**

While Cody was healing, something remarkable was happening on the other side of HSSV. Vicki, a longtime volunteer grieving the loss of her beloved 16-year-old cat, had quietly let teammates know she might be ready to adopt again — maybe a bonded pair, maybe a black cat. The moment she met Willie and Cody, suddenly everything clicked.

When Diane invited her to meet them, Vicki felt an instant connection. “You could just feel their love,” she says. “By the second visit, I knew they were coming home with me.”

Today, Willie and Cody are thriving in her cozy condo — racing up and down the stairs, diving into their crinkly paper boxes, and following Vicki from room to room. Willie sleeps on her pillow; Cody checks in with gentle nudges. They are constant companions who have brought joy back into her home.

Stories like this are only possible because a compassionate community believes every animal deserves a loving home. Thank you for making journeys like Willie and Cody's possible.



Willie and Cody with their new mom, Vicki, who explains, “It feels like they were meant to find me!”



Your Compassion Makes All the Difference

Give today! Your generosity gives more animals healing, hope, and happiness.

Scan to give online:
hssv.org/gift



Saving Lives

Regional Rescue: A Lifeline for Animals Across the Bay Area

For more than a decade, our Sue and John Diekman Regional Rescue Program has been a lifeline for animals who need another chance. What began as a small, local effort has grown into a network of over 20 shelter partners across the state — each working together to save lives.

Behind every animal saved is a larger story — one of partnership, shared responsibility, and a collective commitment to ensuring no animal is left behind. Shelters across our area are facing the same challenges seen nationwide: overcrowding, limited staffing, and rising costs. Many municipal shelters are doing heroic work with limited resources, and Regional Rescue exists to support them.

“Years ago, we set an ambitious goal to save every healthy animal entering Santa Clara County shelters,” said Kristen Jahnke, Vice President of Operations, “Through forming the WeCARE alliance, we achieved this milestone in 2011 and we’re proud almost 15 years later to continue that commitment in our county.” Regional Rescue expands on that work, transporting animals from throughout the area.

In the last 12 months, we went on **150 Rescue Runs**, bringing animals from overcrowded partner shelters to HSSV.

Jessica Zubizarreta, known fondly as JZ, is HSSV’s Rescue & Animal Movement Manager. She coordinates transports from our partners and ensures that every animal we bring back gets the care and love they deserve. “Every time a transport heads back to HSSV, I know



“The Diekman Regional Rescue Program is a lifeline, a new beginning. It’s about creating ripple effects of change, standing with our neighbors, and ensuring animals have a brighter future.”

— JZ

we’re bringing hope with us,” JZ says.

The ripple effect of each rescue extends far beyond one shelter. Monique Rodriguez of Santa Clara County Animal Services explains, “Partnering with HSSV’s Rescue Program has been invaluable to our shelter. When animals are transferred, it helps ease overcrowding and allows us to intake newly found animals who need immediate care. It brings us comfort and joy knowing that our animals are going to a partner equally committed to their well-being.”

The work is essential: creating space when shelters are full, building expertise through experience, and ensuring that partner shelters across the Bay Area never have to face a crisis alone. Operational strength isn’t just about what we can do alone, but what we can build and sustain as a community. [Learn more at hssv.org/regionalrescue](https://hssv.org/regionalrescue)

Keeping Families Together

A Partnership That Nourishes Pets and People

When families struggle to put food on the table, they often struggle to feed their beloved animals as well. That's why our Community Engagement Program includes working with corporate partners to pack food for our Pet Pantry, which distributes nutritious meals to ensure pets remain healthy and families can stay together.

We're proud to highlight one of our dedicated corporate partners, ARM, and the inspiring leadership of Tom, a principal design engineer who also leads community outreach for the company's San Jose office. Every ARM employee is given four paid volunteer hours per month — the equivalent of six full working days each year — to give back.

Food insecurity in the Bay Area has grown significantly, affecting families from every background. For Tom, addressing hunger means looking at the whole picture, including pets. "Feeding the community, feeding pets, taking care of all aspects of what a family is trying to do to get by in the Bay Area — you have to support organizations like HSSV because this is where the services are coming from now that otherwise would be unavailable," he says.

The effects are profound. By providing pet food, HSSV ensures families don't have to make heartbreaking choices between feeding themselves or feeding their pets. We invite you to join ARM, Tom, and countless other volunteers in supporting HSSV's Community Engagement Program. Whether it's donating pet food, giving your time, or making a financial gift, you can help families and their pets stay together, healthy, and strong.

[Learn more at hssv.org/ARM](https://hssv.org/ARM)



We delivered more than **1.3 million** pet meals to **1,300 families**.



Save the Date!

The Fur Ball | May 2, 2026

Our annual Fur Ball returns Saturday, May 2, 2026, for The Pet Gala — a dazzling evening of red-carpet moments, sparkling cocktails, and dancing under the stars in support of lifesaving work for animals and the people who love them. Purchase tickets and learn more at TheFurBall.org. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Donor Spotlight

Finding Purpose Through Compassion

A Touching Letter From One of Our Foster Volunteers, Smitha Sunder

In May 2024, a workplace wellness initiative became an unexpected doorway to transformation. When my company partnered with the Humane Society Silicon Valley for a mental health puppy patch event, I discovered something I hadn't known I was seeking — a profound sense of purpose.

What began with doggy day outings and sleepovers soon deepened into fostering. With each puppy who crossed my threshold, I discovered not just their journey, but my own. I witnessed firsthand the extraordinary tapestry of compassion that HSSV weaves daily: dogs and puppies rescued throughout the area, given sanctuary and hope; a dedicated corps of staff and volunteers orchestrating an intricate ballet of care; mentors guiding newcomers like myself with patience and wisdom; coordinators managing schedules, preparing backpacks filled with supplies, and ensuring every detail serves the mission of new beginnings. Before HSSV, I had success but not purpose, routine but not meaning. I was, in ways I couldn't articulate, asleep to what mattered most.



Now, I wake each day knowing my life touches other lives in tangible ways. The puppy trembling in the corner who learns to trust again teaches me about resilience. The rambunctious foster who discovers joy reminds me to find wonder in small moments. I have learned that

purpose isn't found in grand gestures, but in the daily practice of showing up — for a frightened animal, for a cause greater than myself, for the belief that every life holds immeasurable worth.

On GivingTuesday 2025, I made a special \$10,000 gift as a testament to how profoundly HSSV has changed my life. I am forever grateful to all of you for illuminating a path I didn't know existed — one paved not with certainty but with love, not with perfection but with presence, not with answers but with the profound question: *How can I help?*

“HSSV’s excellence matches its heart. This is more than rescue work — it is the architecture of hope itself.”

— Smitha Sunder, Foster and Supporter



Designate a Gift from Your Donor Advised Fund

A donor advised fund (DAF) is an easy — and effective — way to save lives and help animals throughout our community.

Learn more at hssv.org/daf
or email us at donor.support@hssv.org

By the Numbers

Providing World-Class Care

Your generosity is helping animals in so many ways. Even without a medical center, we maintained comprehensive care through partnership and adaptation — and remained a vital resource for high-risk animals, increasing our capacity for the most vulnerable cases.



1,500
animals received
specialized care



100
parvo/panleuk
cases treated



8,000
spay/neuter
surgeries



190
ringworm
cases treated

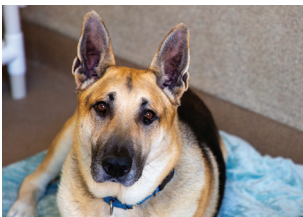


A WEEKEND DEVOTED TO SPAY AND NEUTER

In partnership with several community groups, we completed 108 spay and neuter surgeries through Champions for Pet Health: Communities Partnering for Wellness and Spay & Neuter event. Together, we expanded access to essential preventative care — helping reduce shelter overcrowding and keep pets healthy in the homes that love them.

Want to Get Involved?

You are an important part of our community!
Looking to do more for the animals? Here are some ideas:



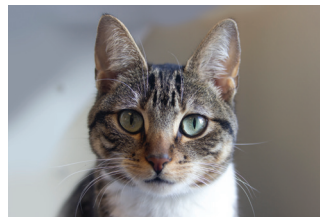
Donate

Save lives by donating — it's tax deductible.



Volunteer

Share your love and time as a shelter volunteer.



Foster

Provide a safe haven as a foster parent.



Feed Pets

Stock our Pet Pantry to help pets and their people.

Visit our website to learn more: hssv.org

Peter Detkin and Michelle Oates Detkin
Animal Community Center
901 Ames Avenue
Milpitas, CA 95035
408-262-2133

West San Jose Neighborhood
Adoption Center in PETCO
500 El Paseo de Saratoga
San Jose, CA 95130

Get social with us!



@humanesocietysv

To find out service availability, visit hssv.org/hourslocations



We always use donations wisely. Humane Society Silicon Valley is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our tax ID is: 94-1196215